Development of Lucknow Airport

†5335. PROF. M.M.AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVILAVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3217 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th April, 2000 and state:

(a) the amount allocated by Government during the current financial year for developing each of those airports as international airport; and

(b) the steps Government are taking or propose to take for developing the Lucknow Airport and developing it as an international airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) These airports are equipped to handle international flights. However, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has allocated Rs. 2.07 crore for Bangalore, Rs. 4.00 crore for Hyderabad airport, Rs. 25.80 crore for Ahmedabad airport, Rs. 0.95 crore for Goa airport, Rs. 5.00 crore for Amritsar airport, Rs. 16.77 crore for Guwahati airport for further upgradation of facilities.

(b) Lucknow airport has been developed as a model airport and limited international operations are already taking place.

Emergency services at Airports

5336. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much time would the relief facilities such as fire tenders and ambulances should take to arrive at the crash venue in case of air crash at any airport;

(b) whether Government plan to improve upon such emergency services in the time of'emergency; and

(q) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The Response Time for rescue and relief vehicles like Crash Fire Tenders (CFT) prescribed by International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) is "within two minutes and not exceeding three minutes". The ambulances are positioned at Fire Station, along with fire tenders and follow the crash fire tenders to reach the crash site.

(b) and (c) All the rescue and fire fighting vehicles at airports conform to the ICAO norm. It is the constant endeavour to improve and upgrade these

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

facilities at the airports. Periodic training is imparted to personnel handling these equipment so as to ensure that the response time prescribed is met during actual emergencies.

Delay in Delhi-Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam Air service

5337. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1987 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th March, 2000 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flight from Delhi-Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam and Visakhapatnam-Bhubaneswar-Delhi, is getting delayed every day and creating inconvenience to the passengers, if so, whether Government will give necessary instructions for sending Delhi-Bhubaneswar-Vizag flight in time; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal to convert the Bhubaneswar Airport into International Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Out of 173 operations during the period from January, 2000 to March, 2000 on the sector Delhi-Bhubaneswar- Visakhapatnam and return, 97 flights got delayed and 7 cancelled. On this, only 6 delays were due to technical reasons and the remaining were due to airport restrictions and miscellaneous reasons.

(b) No, Sir.

Role of MNCs in managing International Airports

5338. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to permit MNCs to take over, operate and run major international airports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this step is being taken to bring our international airports upto international standards and develop new airports; and

(c) if so, what is the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) It has been decided to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) as and when suitable through long-term lease. At present, the existing airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta are being taken up